IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Valerie COMBARET et al.	Group Art Unit: 1634
Application No.: 10/572,905	Examiner: K. SALMON
Filed: March 21, 2006	Docket No.: 127189

For: METHOD FOR NEUROBLASTOMA DIAGNOSIS/PROGNOSIS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 16, 2007 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, as a combination of sequences, the combination comprising SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 22, 25, 29, and 34, with traverse.
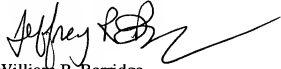
It is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Alternatively, Applicants submit that if any single sequence or subcombination of sequences of the elected combination of sequences is not found in the prior art, then a search

and examination of all combinations that comprise that single sequence or subcombination of sequences would not impose a serious burden to the Examiner.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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WPB:JRB/kxs

Date: December 6, 2007

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